

In The Claims:

Claim 1. (currently amended) A biopolymer marker peptide selected from the group consisting of amino acid residues 2-11 of SEQ ID NO:1, amino acid residues 2-12 of SEQ ID NO:2, and amino acid residues 2-13 of SEQ ID NO:3 ~~or at least one analyte thereof useful in indicating at least one particular disease state~~ diagnostic for insulin resistance.

Claims 2-38. (canceled).

Claim 39. (new) A method for diagnosing insulin resistance comprising:

(a) obtaining a sample from a patient;

(b) conducting mass spectrometric analysis on said sample in a manner effective to maximize elucidation of discernible peptide fragments contained therein; and

61 (c) comparing mass spectrum profiles of a peptide selected from the group consisting of amino acid residues 2-11 of SEQ ID NO:1, amino acid residues 2-12 of SEQ ID NO:2 and amino acid residues 2-13 of SEQ ID NO:3 to mass spectrum profiles of peptides elucidated from said sample; wherein recognition of a mass spectrum profile in the sample displaying the characteristic profile of the mass spectrum profile for the peptide selected from the group consisting of amino acid residues 2-11 of SEQ ID NO:1, amino acid residues 2-

12 of SEQ ID NO:2 and amino acid residues 2-13 of SEQ ID NO:3 is diagnostic for insulin resistance.

Claim 40. (new) The method of claim 39, wherein the sample is an unfractionated body fluid or a tissue sample.

Claim 41. (new) The method of claim 39, wherein said sample is selected from the group consisting of blood, blood products, urine, saliva, cerebrospinal fluid, and lymph.

Claim 42. (new) The method of claim 39, wherein said mass spectrometric analysis is selected from the group consisting of Surface Enhanced Laser Desorption Ionization (SELDI) mass spectrometry (MS), Maldi Qq TOF, MS/MS, TOF-TOF, ESI-Q-TOF and ION-TRAP.

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Claim 43. (new) The method of claim 39, wherein said patient is a human.

Claim 44. (new) An insulin resistance diagnostic kit comprising: (a) a peptide selected from the group consisting of amino acid residues 2-11 of SEQ ID NO:1, amino acid residues 2-12 of SEQ ID NO:2 and amino acid residues 2-13 of SEQ ID NO:3 and (b) an antibody that binds to said peptide in a sample from a patient.

Claim 45. (new) The diagnostic assay kit of claim 44, wherein said antibody is immobilized on a solid support.

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Claim 46. (new) The diagnostic kit of claim 44, wherein said antibody is labeled.

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